

102. (New) A method of obtaining starch from a *Zea mays* seed, comprising:

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- (a) growing a transgenic *Zea mays* plant, the genome of which is augmented with a preselected DNA sequence encoding an RNA molecule which is substantially identical, or complimentary, to a mRNA encoding a seed storage protein, wherein the preselected DNA sequence is expressed in the cells of the *Zea mays* plant in an amount sufficient to decrease the amount of seed storage protein;
  - (b) obtaining seed from said plant; and
  - (c) extracting starch from the seed.

103. (New) The method of claim 101 or 102 wherein the preselected DNA sequence is operably linked to a promoter functional in plant cells.

104. (New) The method of claim 103 wherein the promoter comprises the 10 kD zein promoter.

105. (New) The method of claim 103 wherein the promoter comprises the 27 kD zein promoter.

106. (New) The method of claim 101 or 102 wherein the preselected DNA sequence encodes an RNA molecule which is substantially identical to all or a portion of the mRNA encoding a seed storage protein.

107. (New) The method of claim 101 or 102 wherein the preselected DNA sequence encodes an RNA molecule which is substantially complementary to all or a portion of the mRNA encoding a seed storage protein.

108. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein the preselected DNA sequence encodes an RNA molecule substantially identical to all or a portion of a mRNA encoding a 19 kD  $\alpha$ -zein protein.

109. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein the preselected DNA sequence encodes an RNA molecule substantially identical to all or a portion of a mRNA encoding a 22 kD  $\alpha$ -zein protein.
110. (New) The method of claim 107 wherein the preselected DNA sequence encodes an RNA molecule substantially complementary to all or a portion of a mRNA encoding a 19 kD  $\alpha$ -zein protein.
111. (New) The method of claim 107 wherein the preselected DNA sequence encodes an RNA molecule substantially complementary to all or a portion of a mRNA encoding a 22 kD  $\alpha$ -zein protein.
112. (New) The method of claim 101 or 102 wherein the genome of the transgenic *Zea mays* plant is further augmented with a DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide that provides the transgenic *Zea mays* plant with increased kernel hardness.
113. (New) The method of claim 101 or 102 wherein the transgenic *Zea mays* plant is produced from cells transformed by a method selected from the group consisting of electroporation, microinjection, microprojectile bombardment, and liposomal encapsulation.
114. (New) The method of claim 101 or 102 wherein the genome of the transgenic *Zea mays* plant is further augmented with at least one selectable marker gene.

#### Remarks

Claims 101-114 having been added, the pending claims are 72-73, 78-79, 84, 86, 88-91, 94-95, and 100-114.

New claims 101 and 102 are supported, for example, by originally-filed claim 17, the specification at page six, line 13, through page 7, line 2, and the specification at page 47, line 8 through page 48, line 27.